**Expenditure on education**

1439. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what was the percentage of expenditure of the total Gross Domestic Product on education in the country during 1990-91 and how it compares with those during the years 1970-71 and 1980-81; and

(b) what was the per capita expenditure on education in these years for Kerala and Bihar, separately?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Expenditure of Education Departments of Centre and State Governments as percentage of total Gross Domestic Product is as under:—

| Year | Expenditure as Percentage of GDP |
|---|---|
| 1990-91 (B.E.) . . . | 3.45 |
| 1980-81 . . . . | 2.75 |
| 1970-71 . . . . | 2.25 |

(b) Per capita budgetted expenditure on education for the three years for Kerala and Bihar is as under:—

(in Rupees)

| State | Per Capita Expenditure | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1990-91 (B.E.) | 1980-81 | 1970-71 |
| Kerala . | 235.46 | 82.74 | 28.21 |
| Bihar . | 138.18 | 29.35 | 8.60 |

**Semester system at plus two level**

1440. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Educational Research Training (NCERT) propose to introduce semester system at 10+2 level of secondary education;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed system and the experimentation conducted in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to enforce the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is a resource institution which gives advice to the Government in formulation and implementation of national policies and programmes in school education. The National Policy on Education, 1986 stipulated that one of the components of examination reform would be the introduction of the semester system from the Secondary stage in a phased manner. The draft Curricular Framework for Higher Secondary Education prepared by the NCERT in July, 1988 also recommends the semester system.

The National Conference organised by the NCERT on 9-10th March, 1992 with representatives of various Boards of Secondary/Higher Secondary Education and other experts recommended introduction of semester system at hte Higher Secondary stage (+2 level) after wide-ranging discussions with the concerned State Boards of Secondary/Higher Secondary Education. A nationally agreed pattern of semester system to be considered for introduction at the Higher Secondary stage by the Government would depend on the outcome of these discussions.

**Stone Artifacts near the Periphery of Babri Masjid**

1441. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Statesman of 11th March,